Notice of Allowability	Application No. 10/673,187	Applicant(s) KIM ET AL.	
	Examiner Robert A. Hopkins	Art Unit 1724	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *application filed 9-30-03*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *1-17*.

3. ☒ The drawings filed on *30 September 2003* are accepted by the Examiner.

4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
   a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
      1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .
      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
   (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
   (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 9-30-03
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ .
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-17 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claim 1 recites " a cabinet provided with first and second air cleaning units, said first and second air cleaning units being connected to each other and each being provided with a blowing unit and a filtering unit; first and second sensors provided on the cabinet to be spaced apart from each other and to sense air pollution levels at opposite sides of a room; ... ". PCT reference(WO 2004/108248) and LeBaron(6050774) disclose first and second separate air cleaning units, each having a blowing unit and filtering unit, which can be arranged as modules. However PCT reference and LeBaron does not teach a cabinet provided with first and second air cleaning units, and also does not teach first and second sensors provided on the cabinet to be spaced apart from each other and to sense air pollution levels at opposite sides of a room. Japanese reference(63-44920) discloses a single air purification unit having a blower and filter, and a first sensor and second sensor mounted next to each other on the unit, wherein the first sensor and second sensor have different sensitivity for various contents of contaminated air, and a control circuit is connected to the sensors. However , Japanese reference does not teach a cabinet with first and second air cleaning units, and also does not teach first and second sensors spaced apart from one another to sense air pollution levels at opposite sides of a room. Therefore , it would not have been obvious to someone of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to provide a cabinet provided with first and second air cleaning units, said first and second air cleaning units being connected to each other and each being provided with a blowing unit and a filtering unit; first and second sensors provided on the cabinet to be spaced apart from each other and to sense air pollution levels at opposite sides of a room because neither PCT reference nor LeBaron nor Japanese reference teach such a modification. Claims 2-12 depend on claim 1 and hence are also allowed.

Claim 13 recites "a plurality of air cleaning units connected to each other; a sensing unit to sense room air pollution levels; and a control unit to control the air cleaning units simultaneously or individually based on the sensed room air pollution levels". PCT reference(WO 2004/108248) and LeBaron(6050774) discloses a plurality of air cleaning units connected to each other, but does not disclose a sensing unit to sense room air pollution levels; and a control unit to control the air cleaning units simultaneously or individually based on the sensed room air pollution levels. Japanese reference(63-44920) discloses a single air purification unit having a blower and filter, and a first sensor and second sensor mounted next to each other on the unit, wherein the first sensor and second sensor have different sensitivity for various contents of contaminated air, and a control circuit is connected to the sensors. However , Japanese reference does not teach a plurality of air cleaning units connected to each other. Therefore , it would not have been obvious to someone of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide a plurality of air cleaning units connected to each other; a sensing unit to sense room air pollution levels; and a control unit to control the air cleaning units simultaneously or individually based on the sensed room air pollution

levels because neither PCT reference nor nor LeBaron nor Japanese reference suggest such a modification.

Claim 14 recites "a plurality of air cleaning units connected to each other and provided with a blowing unit and a filtering unit; a plurality of sensors to sense room air pollution levels; and a control unit to control the air cleaning units simultaneously or individually based on data of the sensed room air pollution levels obtained by the sensors". PCT reference(WO 2004/108248) and LeBaron(6050774) discloses a plurality of air cleaning units connected to each other, but does not disclose aa plurality of sensors to sense room air pollution levels; and a control unit to control the air cleaning units simultaneously or individually based on data of the sensed room air pollution levels obtained by the sensors. Japanese reference(63-44920) discloses a single air purification unit having a blower and filter, and a first sensor and second sensor mounted next to each other on the unit, wherein the first sensor and second sensor have different sensitivity for various contents of contaminated air, and a control circuit is connected to the sensors. However , Japanese reference does not teach a plurality of air cleaning units connected to each other. Therefore , it would not have been obvious to someone of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide a plurality of air cleaning units connected to each other and provided with a blowing unit and a filtering unit; a plurality of sensors to sense room air pollution levels; and a control unit to control the air cleaning units simultaneously or individually based on data of the sensed room air pollution levels obtained by the sensors because neither

PCT reference nor LeBaron nor Japanese reference suggest such a modification.

Claims 15-17 depend on claim 14 and hence are also allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert A. Hopkins whose telephone number is 571-272-1159. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 7am-4pm, alternate Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Duane Smith can be reached on 571-272-1166. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Rah
March 31, 2005

Robert A. Hopkins
ROBERT A. HOPKINS
PRIMARY EXAMINER
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